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# THE INFINITE

[*AFTER LEOPARDI*]

BY FRANCIS ROGERS

I always loved this solitary hill,  
And yon green hedge that from my roving glance  
Shuts off the low horizon's farthest sweep.  
For as in meditation here I sit  
I come to sense beyond that distant line  
Immeasurable space and stillness deeper far  
Than any silence known to mortal ears,  
Where for a time my heart can know no fear.  
And as the wind goes souging through the leaves  
I listen, and compare that silence infinite  
With this soft sound. Then in my mind wells up  
The thought of all eternity, of days  
Long past and dead; then of the day that is  
And what it means to me. And so, deep down  
In this immensity of thought I sink;  
And sweet it is to drown in such a sea.